

## THE SEMINOLES, CONTINUED.

~~~~~  
WILD CAT AND GENERAL WORTH.

AT this period of our national history we are unable to picture or appreciate the condition of those slave days, when all blacks of Southern States were regarded as the property of the whites. The fear, the torture, the grief suffered by the negroes and half breeds, who had been a people with the Seminoles almost one hundred years, is beyond our conception. When Indian husbands were separated from wives selected from the exiles—when children were torn from their homes and carried to slavery, the vengeance of these persecuted people was constantly alive. Persons of disreputable character—gamblers, horse thieves—were employed as slave catchers and showed no mercy to the helpless victim.

After the violation of the treaty at Tampa, and the capture of Osceola and Wild Cat, under the sacred truce, Wild Cat became a most daring enemy to the troops, and kept his warriors inspired to the savage hostilities.

General Scott was now placed in command of the army, yet the same harrassing marches continued, and it was not until seven generals had been defeated at the game of the Indian warfare by the wily chieftains that any sign of success was apparent.

Our Government, discouraged at being unable to conquer the Indians, or protect the white settlers, again negotiated for peace, but using a more powerful weapon than in former years—that of moral suasion. Executive documents show that all through the war, artifice and bad faith were practiced on the Indians. The Government was astonished that a few Indians and their Negro allies could defy United States troops. All efforts had failed, even to the horrible policy of employing bloodhounds. To-day we shudder at the barbarity of such an act, but official documents show how much the subject was discussed by Congress and war authorities. A schooner was dispatched to Cuba and returned with thirty-five bloodhounds—